है। इसके अलावा, राज्यों और संघ शासित प्रदेशों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत गेहूं का आवंटन दिसम्बर, 1990 में 7.71 लाख मीटरी टन से बढ़ा कर जनवरी, 1991 में 8.07 लाख मीटरी टन कर दिया गया था। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए आवंटन को और बढ़ाकर फरवरी में 9.35 लाख मीटरी टन कर दिया गया। राज्यों को यह सलाह भी दी गई है कि वे थोक विक्रेताओं और खुदरा विक्रेताओं के लिए स्टाक रखने की सीमाओं को कम करें और स्टाक रखने की सीमाओं को कड़ाई से लागू करें। इन उपायों से खाड़ी युद्ध के कारण खुले बाजार में उच्चतम सीमा तक पहुंच गेहूं के मूल्यों में कमी आई है।

Proposal to start "Palace on Wheels"

*19. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a "Palace on Wheels" in the South also on the model of the one run between Delhi and Jaiselmer;

(b) if so, by when it would be introduced and what would be its itinerary;

(c) what would be the cost of running it and what revenue Government expect to earn; and

(d) what is the revenue earned and expenditure incurred on the Delhi-Jaiselmer "Palace on Wheels" at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) to (c) A proposal to run "Palace on Wheels' like train in Southern India is under examination, and, a view has yet to be taken.

(d) During 1989-90, Railway earned a revenue of Rs. 1.50 crores on the "Palace on Wheels" and incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1.53 crores on the basis of fully distributed cost and Rs. 0.93 crores on the basis of direct costs.

Requirement of Foodgrains

*20. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total food stock available with Government and what is the requirement of the various States for different foodgrains;

(b) what is the demand from Maharashtra specially from Bombay city; and

(c) to what extent Bombay's requirement is being met?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The total stocks of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool as on 1-2-1991 stood at 18.0 million tonnes. The total distribution of foodgrains from Central Pool during 1989-90 was 14.82 million tonnes (rice and wheat).

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra has demanded allocation of 55.000 tonnes of rice and 1,25.000 tonnes of wheat from the Central Pool for the Public Distribution System for the month of March, 1991. The State has been allocated 45.000 tonnes of rice and 1,20,000 tonnes of wheat. The distribution of foodgrains within the State is the responsibility of the State Government.

Setting up of National Potato Board

†SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Potato Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concerned States have been consulted in this matter,

if so, what is their reaction thereto; and

(d) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINSTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAISHAH): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Allotment of accommodation to the employees of special pool from general pool

2. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications have been received by the Directorate of Estates for allotment of houses to their employees by offices which are at present not covered by the general pool;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in those cases; and

(c) how those offices would be required to meet the demands of such employees in view of the general shortage of accommodation in those offices?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) to (c) General pool accommodation is meant for allotment to the Central Government employees working in eligible offices. Certain Departments/offices who have constructed their own pool of accommodation, have been declared ineligible for allotment of accommodation from general pool either wholly or in respect of specified categories of employees. Applications received from such offices are not considered for allotment of general pool accommodation. They are required to meet their needs from their own pool of accommodation.

Allotment of accommodation for special pool

3. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Government offices which are not covered by the General Pool and have special pool of their own for the purpose of allotment of houses to the employees working in such offices;

(b) which of these pools do not construct houses on their own but depend on general pool to meet their requirement;

(c) what is the procedure followed by the general pool to meet the requirement of the offices which do not construct houses of their own;

(d) whether any request for houses of various types has been received from such offices during the last two years (January, 1989—December, 1990); and

(e) if so, what action has been taken on such requests?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

"Drought prone areas programmes and desert development programme"

4. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the conceptional framework of the Drought Prone Areas Programmes and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) in the country;